

# ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION NEWS

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P.O. Box 1419, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02840

FALL, 1995 NUMBER 19

## "WE ROWS" RACE A SUCCESS!



**O**ur very first "We Rows for Rose" kayak and canoe race was an incredible success!

During the course of the morning of Saturday, September 23, over 100 people (and one dog) in 70 boats bravely paddled from Fort Adams into choppy seas and chilly, 20-25 mile per hour winds towards Rose Island to raise funds for the Lighthouse. We thought it would have to be postponed because of the weather, but the paddlers were all gung-ho to get soaking wet and wouldn't even consider a postponement. In fact, we had over 20 additional boats entering that morning! We were glad to see our old keeper **Christopher Owens** back for a paddle down memory lane and awarded him one of our new NOAA charts for his help in lighting the light in 1993.

Started with a signal from presenting sponsor **Ted Fischer**, owner of **Atlantic Outfitters** of Newport, paddlers reached the finish line at Rose Island, beached their boats, were given refreshments and got to go up into the lantern room of the lighthouse, where they could see the other racers braving the seas to get there.

With the wind and seas at their backs, the return trip to Fort Adams for the Prize ceremony was a breeze. **David Kyle** of Newport won the 11-ft touring kayak jointly donated by **Necky Kayak** and **Atlantic Outfitters**. Other prizes included a brass ship's clock and barometer donated by **Newport Nautical Supply**, a Polar Tek fleece pullover from **North by Northeast**, boat shoes from **The Rockport**

*continued on page 8*





#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Karen Augeri Benson, Vice President  
Kathleen C. Babcock, Secretary  
Bonnie B. Kennedy, Treasurer

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Beth Clarke, Administrative Associate

#### ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION NEWS

Fall, 1995 Number 19

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### SURVEY SHOWS RESULTS

Our recent member survey was designed so you can guide us with your vision for the Lighthouse and Rose Island. With a 19% return rate by September 1 from our members in good standing, it told us a lot about our membership and your wishes: 72% of the respondents had visited the Lighthouse. Historical articles are the most favored for our newsletter, followed by environmental articles, and information about our educational programs. Respondents overwhelmingly (88%) favored the rest of Rose Island (the 16 acres we do not own) being developed for public use as a nature preserve. More than 80% of our respondents told us they would support the Foundation's acquisition of the rest of Rose Island.

We want to know how all our members envision our goals. In order to move ahead to meet the goal of our board and membership to keep Rose Island as a public resource, we are accepting the generous offer of the Prince Charitable Trusts to support our hiring a consultant. The consultant will help us further develop a strategic plan to fine tune our direction, vision and how to move forward to achieve this vision. The next step is to conduct a feasibility study to test the community's interest in the project. If the study finds that the capital campaign is a "go" we would then move on to a comprehensive capital campaign fund-raising plan to purchase the rest of Rose Island.

We have an exciting year ahead of us with much hard work and fun on our schedule. I hope to see you personally and look forward to hearing from you with any comments that you might have. I can be reached at 401-842-0038.

Geraldine Pilkington, President

### NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Each year at our Annual Meeting five board members are elected from the membership to serve a term of three years. The Board elects officers at its next meeting. New Board members are: Kathleen C. Babcock, and Jeffrey C. Hall. Reelected are Annette M. DeSilva, Dr. Mary C. O'Brien and Evan E. Smith. Officers elected were Geraldine R. Pilkington, President; Karen Augeri Benson, Esq., Vice President; Kathleen C. Babcock, Secretary; Bonnie B. Kennedy, Treasurer.

### NEED A SPEAKER?

If you, your organization or school needs a speaker on an environmental or historical theme, please consider having our Executive Director Charlotte Johnson take you on an entertaining "armchair visit" to the Lighthouse with her slides, or have her tailor a Rose Island slide show to your special needs. To set up a meeting call 401-847-4242.

## FORT HAMILTON NATIONAL

On July 17, 1995, the RI Historical Preservation Commission informed us that Fort Hamilton on had been determined eligible for the National Register Places. To further en-LIGHT-en our members and the history of Rose Island and our wonderful Lig also in response to the interest expressed in responses, a series of historical and environment be printed in our future newsletters. The f installment follows.

### ROSE ISLAND

#### Brief history to the early 19th Century

One mile off the coast of Newport in the middle of what is now called the East Passage of lower Narragansett Bay lies tiny Rose Island. To Native Americans its name was 'Conockonoquit' or 'place of the long point,' for prior to the Portland Gale of 1898, the island consisted of 20-23 acres with a long, low-lying, grassy pasture on the north end, which was reduced to tidal flats by the storm. Today it's 17-or-so acre shape looks more like a pork chop consisting of two lots: the 1.5 acre lighthouse reservation which belongs to the City of Newport, and the other, much larger lot belonging to CMTS and Atlantic Investment Corp.

The British occupied Newport from December 1776 until October 1779, during which time they constructed a small battery for four cannon on Rose Island. In addition, war ships, with their cannon aimed at the Bay entrance, were positioned between Rose and Goat Islands. In August 1778, however, the British abandoned their island batteries, withdrew into Newport, and blew up or sank their own vessels in shallow waters off Goat Island and Washington Street to



ROSE  
ISLAND  
1780



ROSE  
ISLAND  
1780



# FORT HAMILTON ELIGIBLE FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

On July 17, 1995, the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission informed us that Fort Hamilton on Rose Island had been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. To further en-LIGHT-en our members and friends about the history of Rose Island and our wonderful Lighthouse, and also in response to the interest expressed in your survey responses, a series of historical and environmental articles will be printed in our future newsletters. The first historical installment follows.

## ROSE ISLAND

### Brief history to the early 19th Century

One mile off the coast of Newport in the middle of what is now called the East Passage of lower Narragansett Bay lies tiny Rose Island. To Native Americans its name was 'Conockonoquit' or 'place of the long point,' for prior to the Portland Gale of 1898, the island consisted of 20-23 acres with a long, low-lying, grassy pasture on the north end, which was reduced to tidal flats by the storm. Today it's 17-or-so acre shape looks more like a pork chop consisting of two lots: the 1.5 acre lighthouse reservation which belongs to the City of Newport, and the other, much larger lot belonging to CMTS and Atlantic Investment Corp.

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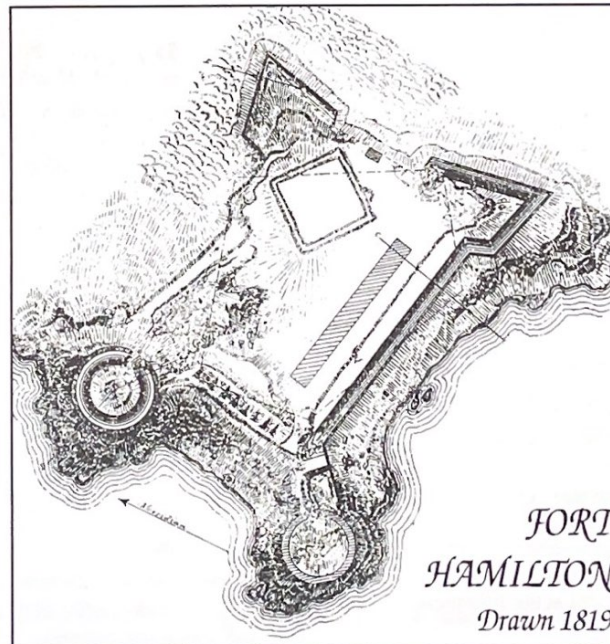
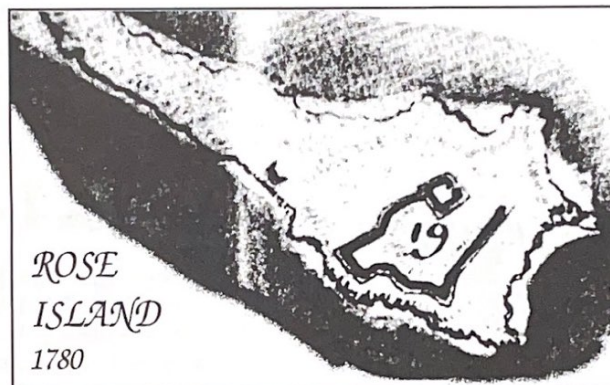
prevent the French ships from approaching during the Battle of Rhode Island. Then, for no obvious reason, on October 25, 1779, the British peacefully left Newport, one of the most strategically important naval anchorages on the East Coast.

From July 1780 to June 1781, French troops under General Rochambeau and the Rhode Island Militia remodeled and strengthened all the earlier British works, and in particular, constructed a strong work armed with forty pieces of heavy artillery on Rose Island (which the French called 'Isle de Race').

Upon their departure in June 1781, the French turned their fortifications in Newport over to the American forces. The United States was formally organized in 1789 and shortly thereafter

began constructing its first coastal defenses, or 'First System Fortifications'. Between 1798 and 1800 under Louis Tousard, these major works were constructed: the first Fort Adams (not the one there today); an elliptical fort on Jamestown's Dumpling rocks; Fort Greene on Washington Street (Battery Park); modifications to Fort Washington on Goat Island; and Fort Hamilton on Rose Island. Named for Alexander Hamilton it was a rectangular design with pointed bastions on the east corners and unique, innovative, circular bastions on the west corners. Designed for sixty cannon mounted en barbette (on top of the earthen walls) it was the largest fortification ever undertaken on Rose Island, although it was never completed or armed. While under construction, in 1799 all of Rose Island (20 acres) was purchased by the U. S. Government from Hannah, Solomon and Henry Goddard for the total sum of \$1,500.

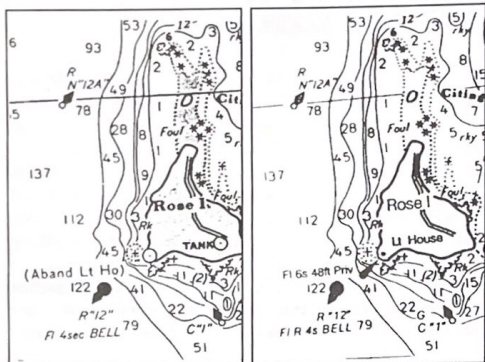
In 1800 a fire destroyed the government's records in the War Department. Much of Washington was burned again during the



continued on page 8



## LIGHTHOUSE MAKES THE CHARTS



NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE? Charts from 1971 to 1994 have called us "Aband Lt Ho." But no longer! The new charts show "Fl 6s 48ft Priv" which is chart talk meaning the Rose Island Light has a flashing white light every 6 seconds at 48 ft. above the water and we're privately maintained.



### THE KEEPER'S LIGHT LOG

The Rose Island light shone to mark the following special occasions:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| May 15       | In celebration of Wanton Chase's 86th Birthday (born in 1909, Wanton lived at the lighthouse beginning in 1910. He is the grandson of Charles and Christina Curtis, keepers from 1887-1918).        |
| May 26       | In memory of beloved board member Elizabeth Morris Smith on her birthday.   |
| August 7     | In celebration of the second anniversary of re-lighting the light and the 206th anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Lighthouse Service.  |
| August 13    | In celebration of the 80th birthday of twin sisters Kate Drury and Hope Drury Goddard.  |
| September 17 | In memory of Curtis W. Bunting, one of the original founders and President of the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation from 1984-1991 on the anniversary of both his birthday and his wedding to Arva. |

LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE GIFT? Please consider lighting the light or giving a gift certificate for a night at the lighthouse.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Winter offers a quiet time allowing our volunteers to do interior projects that would otherwise interrupt the stays of our summer-time overnight visitors. Lighthouse projects include washing and painting each room and refinishing the floors. We need carpenters to build shelves and cabinets, and to install paneling in the upstairs kitchen and downstairs pantry. Research projects include checking into the design and cost of reproducing interior window shutters (we've kept what's left of the original ones we found rotting in the basement). Pick and ax projects include cutting a drain in the cement floor to control the cistern overflow in the basement, or you might volunteer as mason's assistant to help Rick Oriel repair some of the holes in our bastion wall before winter sets in. We also need to raise the height of the basement's plastic cistern liner and install new supports for it.

For Museum/Office projects, we need volunteers to inventory, label and catalog the lighthouse collection of furnishings and furniture; organize and file last year's newspaper and magazine clippings; train to become tour guides or speakers; take photographs for the newsletter; and to stuff brochures. We also need research assistants and phone callers who can commit a minimum of two hours per week to help with our Membership and Fundraising Drives.

Call Charlotte at the office at 401-847-4242 to volunteer for any of these opportunities or to volunteer to be the volunteer coordinator.

## KEEPER DREAMS

Beth  
Clarke

As the song goes, "Saturday night in Toledo, Ohio — well, I spent a week there one day." The same can be said of spending a night at the Rose Island Lighthouse, but with a more positive connotation. Often, our overnight guests comment that although they spent just one night at the Lighthouse, they feel as relaxed and refreshed as if they had been away longer. And our weekly guests — why, we can hardly drag some of them off the Island in time for the next keepers to take over! What is the magic of Rose Island?

How many people dream of being on an island with no television, no telephone or answering machine, computers, deadlines or responsibilities? At first glance, the Lighthouse appears to satisfy just that fantasy; it is a safe haven from all that overwhelms us in contemporary life. However, it provides much more than an escape. Spending a night at the Lighthouse comes with responsibility. You must learn to conserve water and electricity, and not only take care of yourself by preparing food, cleaning the rooms, and entertaining yourself without electronic gadgets, but you must take care of the Lighthouse that has been entrusted to you.

By reverting back to a more basic lifestyle, one can focus on what is truly important. And, the most rewarding aspect of spending a night at the Lighthouse is that what you learn is not left on the dock of Rose Island — you take it with you and it influences your daily life. Perhaps you run the water less frequently, or you eat by candlelight more often, and you take more walks, read more books, become more aware of environmental issues and more active in preservation — of the earth, all its inhabitants, including yourself.

And the world becomes a better place—one night at a time.

## WHEN YOU

When you can't figure what to do with the old things you've unearthed in your house/office/home, you bought in a garage sale last year, or you're turning it into a tax-deductible donation, we have an office and also 'keep' it modern and one old-fashioned (we need for all kinds of new and old things, nets, shelving, books, player piano, etc.) depending on our seasonal projects and specific needs. Here are some of the things from past lists:

(Give kids a different perspective in the classroom with a good telescope, photographer's lens, some binoculars, and rose-colored contact lenses you've been saving; ★A or other appropriate sentiments like "I Hope"; ★Books like "The Hope"; ★An armchair or free standing cabinet in the keeper's apartment (or a volunteer's apartment).)

## EDUCATION REPORT

Kathy Babcock

## A CLASS A

During October over one hundred schools visited the Lighthouse, including St. Patrick's School in Providence, Rhode Island, School, and Thompson Middle School.

The largest single group was from St. Patrick's School with 60 children in the 6th grade who visited over two days. Mr. Steve Connolly came on our first trip and Newport Times reporter Timothy J. Kelly came along on our second trip. Tim did a great job, wrote a terrific article for the front page of the "Times" (Newport Daily News 11/1/95), but I'm sure he'll be a reporter as well! In fact, he also remembered our visits to Rose Island when he was in sixth grade and the lighthouse restoration began. See, we never forget our visits to Rose Island.

As usual, Charlotte Johnson gave us all my classes to Rose Island—Elen Science, and, as usual, we collected classrooms. Charlotte explained about the restoration of the lighthouse and how



# WHEN YOU WISH UPON A



When you can't figure what to do with things you've just unearthed in your house/office holiday cleaning, or the what-not you bought in a garage sale last year, won't you please think of turning it into a tax-deductible donation to the lighthouse? Since we have an office and also 'keep' two apartments furnished (one modern and one old-fashioned circa 1912) we have standing needs for all kinds of new and old items, including filing cabinets, shelving, books, player piano rolls and old records. Also, depending on our seasonal projects and events, we generate specific needs. Here are some new wishes along with a few holdovers from past lists:

(Give kids a different perspective in how they see things with: a good telescope, photographer's loupe, microdome, microscope, some binoculars, and rose-colored glasses; ★ Still-wrapped hotel soaps you've been saving; ★ American flags (3'x5' or larger) or other appropriate sentiments like "Don't Give Up The Ship", or R.I.'s motto 'Hope'; ★ Bookshelves, book cases of any kind, an armoire or free standing cabinet for coats, mops and brooms in the keeper's apartment (or a volunteer carpenter to build them);

★ Legitimately transferable frequent flyer miles (to help send our representatives to preservation conferences and environmental meetings, or so we can offer a trip as a prize for next year's Kayak race); ★ Old-fashioned meat grinder; ★ New-fashioned blender or food processor; ★ Cook books of all kinds; ★ Small gasoline-powered generator for electricity beyond the reach of our extension cords (with thanks to Paul Boghossian for lending us his the last time); ★ Lots and lots of small, old wooden or metal picture frames to display our historic photo collection in the museum library (wait till you see the new set-up!); ★ IBM compatible lap-top computer so over the winter Charlotte can work at the lighthouse on the history book we promised; ★ Barbecue-type smoker to preserve the extra mussels or blue fish we catch; ★ 1 or 2 Lobster traps; ★ Old ceiling light or chandelier for the library; ★ Small braided, hooked or oriental scatter rugs; ★ Full size (double) metal frame bed (brass would be nice, but painted metal is fine).

Do you think you have something we can use? GREAT! Please contact Charlotte Johnson, Exec. Director at 401-847-4242 or send a picture to RILF, P.O. Box 1419, Newport, RI 02840-0997.

## EDUCATION REPORT

Kathy Babcock

### A CLASS ACT

During October over one hundred students from area schools visited the Lighthouse, including children from St. Patrick's School in Providence, Newport's Coggeshall School, and Thompson Middle School.

The largest single group was from Thompson Middle School with 60 children in the 6th Grade Cluster 3 who visited over two days. Mr. Steve O'Connor accompanied us on our first trip and *Newport Daily News* reporter Timothy J. Kelly came along for the ride on our second trip. Tim did a great job, not only writing a terrific article for the front page of the "Local/State" section (*Newport Daily News* 11/1/95), but also played photographer as well! In fact, he also remembered being over on Rose Island when he was in sixth grade, before the lighthouse restoration began. See, even "old folks" like us never forget our visits to Rose Island!

As usual, Charlotte Johnson gave us a fantastic tour (I've taken all my classes to Rose Island—Elementary, American History, Science), and, as usual, we collected lots of treasures for our classrooms. Charlotte explained about the Island's history, the restoration of the lighthouse and how resources like rainwater



"Newport Art Museum summer school students and their teacher Terri Anthony, with their dioramas, enjoying creative learning on Rose Island."

and electricity are conserved. The children are really "turned on" and excited to learn more about wind energy, solar energy, water conservation, ecology and our environment in our classrooms in preparation for our return trip in the Spring.

P.S. Remember — Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!



## PROPERTY REPORT

Glenn Gardiner

# DROUGHT MAKES FOR GOOD PAINTING WEATHER

The Lighthouse has seen much attention over the summer and is fully prepared to withstand the upcoming winter weather. Most of the maintenance energy and money has been spent insuring the exterior envelope is in excellent condition. Interior items can be attended to over the winter or next spring. From top to bottom, the following items and tasks were accomplished from July through October: The light tower was resheathed with fiberglass and painted outside and in. All the windows of the lighthouse (23), fog horn (3) and public toilet building (3) were scraped, reglazed, primed and painted. (Storm windows had been installed on the main building last March.) All rotted wood sections of trim, casings and windows were removed and rebuilt with bronze nail fastenings. The basement bulkhead door and the door to the generator building were replaced. Three new storm doors will be installed on the lighthouse before the winter. Thanks to a combination of paid carpenters and painters, talented volunteers and weekly lighthouse "keepers," the entire exterior of the lighthouse, generator, and public toilet buildings have been sanded, filled, primed and repainted.

In conclusion, the Lighthouse is in very good condition. We welcome all our members, keepers, and visitors to share in both the work and the pride we all feel by keeping the lighthouse looking so beautiful.



*"Jim Zito & Dave Cameron from Sherwin Williams. Behind them on the ladder is Emily Johnson, putting a finish coat of white paint on the Lighthouse."*

# TENTH ANNUAL MEETING CELEBRATED AT FORT ADAMS

On August 7, inside the newly opened, exquisite casemates of Fort Adams, our 10th annual meeting was held. Before Fort Adams Trust Director, Edwin Connelly, took over 100 members and guests on a never-to-be-forgotten tour of the Fort, our members learned about RILF's steady progress and elected a new board of directors.

Outgoing Treasurer Theo C. Duncan, reported that the Foundation's educational programs (including its "Light House-keeping", which gives people an opportunity to spend a night or a week being the keeper of the lighthouse) were outstanding successes. Coupled with 1994-95's strong membership support from dues and Annual Campaign contributions, the Foundation had a positive cash flow of \$1,606 for the year, after purchasing a used copy machine and some needed office equipment. In addition, nearly \$15,000 in deferred revenues were already in the bank. These, Duncan said, consisted of membership dues for the 1995-96 fiscal year, plus deposits on nights at the lighthouse scheduled after the fiscal year started on 1 July.

In her Executive Director's Report, Charlotte Johnson, hailed everyone's hard work in meeting the Foundation's goals set back in 1992, which were to 1) be totally debt free and to light the light to celebrate (this was done on August 7, 1993 with the successful \$100,000 Light the Light Campaign), and 2) to make the Foundation self-supporting with membership support and program income covering administrative costs. Johnson asked the membership to help develop the Foundation's next set of goals by responding to a survey which was handed out and mailed later to members in good standing. (See the President's Letter for results.)

For the next hour, everyone was escorted through the interstices of the Fort by Edwin Connelly and Frank Hale of the Trust, plus other guides who simply captivated our members with their stories and the Fort on tour. Returning to delicious box dinners prepared by Kathleen's Catering, people were heard to exclaim "Fascinating!" "The BEST Annual Meeting I've EVER attended!"

Thanks for the meeting's terrific success are due to our host Edwin Connelly and the Fort Adams Trust, to Dick Massie and Marie Resz of DEM's Parks Division for zipping the permits along, also to Kathleen's Catering, Union Station Brewery, Sakonnet Vineyards, and volunteers Kathy & Paul Giammarco and Alicia Spinner. Congratulations to Board and staff organizers: Jeannie Sullivan, David Hurd, Geri Pilkington, Beth Clarke and Charlotte Johnson.



# CLAMBAKE NIKKOMO

## *Lobsters with a Native American Twist*

The oldest and largest of our fundraising events, our Clambake this year also became the most traditional—it was prepared by Native Americans of the Pokanoket Tribe headquartered in Bristol, RI. Bakemaster Don Weeden AKA *Ousa Mequin* or "Yellow Feather," has been on our board of directors since 1994, so it was easy to get him to do our bake in celebration of Nikkomo (thanksgiving held at the time of the full moon) on September 9.

With the help of other members of the Pokanoket Tribe and Rose Island Lighthouse, 150 people in all were served a fabulous meal, heard stories handed down from Princess Red Wing, and otherwise thoroughly enjoyed a lovely, educational, entertaining and environmentally-sound evening. You see, only two bags of trash were generated, since everyone sorted their leftovers! Food scraps were returned to either the earth (compost pile) or the Bay (lobster, mussel & clam shells). Everything else was either reused or recycled (plastic and stainless utensils, etc.)

Thanks go to our helpers: **Lion Heart, Silent Thunder, Donald Simmons, Princess Precious, Strong Woman** (who told stories), **Moon Dancer** and **Deerfoot**, along with **Farrell Black** and **Bob Zeigler, John Dalessio, Emily Johnson, Steve & Bonnie Kennedy, Deborah McQuade, Laurie Shaw, Bernice Stiner, Jeannie Sullivan Burchard, Cornelia Waldman**, plus **Judy Johnson** and the **Henry Family**.

We are especially grateful, too, for the continued strong support we get each year from our wonderful community, especially food and beverage donors **Aquidneck Lobster, Blue Gold Mussels, Boat House Restaurant, Chart**

**House, Chase Farms, Clark Cooke House, Eastern Ice, Le Bistro, Mooring Restaurant, The West Deck**, plus **Laurice Shaw** and **Bill Waterson**; to **Aidinoff's Wine & Spirits, Bucci's Package Store, Clipper Wine & Spirits, Coca Cola** (for the old-fashioned Birch Beer), **Fifth Ward Liquor, Rum Runner Liquor Store, Thames Street Liquors, The Toppa Company, Vicker's Liquors, Wellington Square Liquors, Vincent Vento**, and **The Toppa Company**. In addition, thanks go to **Reardon's** and **One Stop** for palates, **T.J. Brown** for firewood and to **Bob Finn** and **Don Brown** for hauling it, to **Phil Holmes** for donating the canvases to cover the bake, and to **Rick Trahan** for taking pictures so we'll always be able to remember how much fun we had.



*Lining up for lobsters*



*Story-telling by Strong Woman*



*The perfect setting for our Native American Clambake*



### Rows Race, from page 1

Company, gift certificates at the **Music Hall Cafe** and **White Horse Tavern** and 25 brand new NOAA charts of Narragansett Bay donated by **Chart Kit/BBA**.

Prizes were awarded in the racing divisions as follows:

**CLASS 1 - Touring Kayaks made of fiberglass, kevlar or carbon**

1. **Jeff Fischer** Newport
2. **R. Tripp Estabrook** Newport
3. **John Hagen** Newport

**CLASS 2 - Touring and sit-on-top Kayaks under 18 feet made of polyethylene**

1. **Peter Stalkus** Newport
2. **Sean Fitzgerald** Portsmouth
3. **Jed Wilcox** Newport

**CLASS 3 - Keowee type Kayaks under 11 feet, wider than 26 inches**

1. **Harvey Davis** Newport
2. **Anthony Gallonio, Jr.** Johnston
3. **Winkle Kelly** Newport
4. **Greg Weimar** Newport
5. tie **Mary Jennings** Newport  
**Peter Decaux** Newport

**CLASS 4 - Tandem canoes and Kayaks**

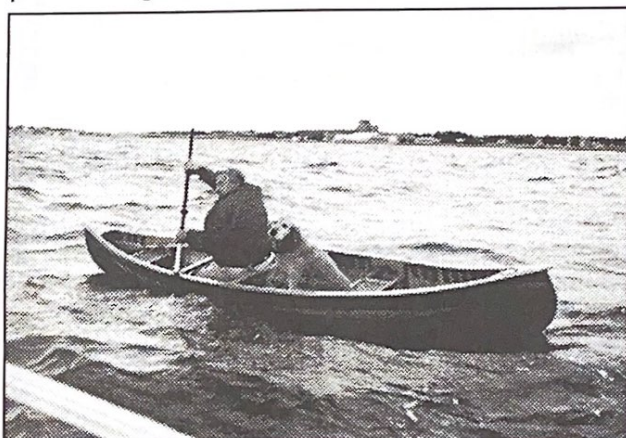
1. **Butch & Joan Hitchcock** Middletown
2. **Mariana Hayes** (Newport) & **Joe Logan** (Jamestown)
3. **Melissa Kyle** (Newport) & **Dawn Rydberg** (Portsmouth)

**CLASS 5 - Non racing, just for fun division - kayaks, canoes, row boats or anything that floats that you think will make it to Rose Island and back**  
no prizes awarded

Special thanks go to the race organizers **Melanie Cahill** and **Ted Fischer**, and race sponsors **Atlantic Outfitters**, **The Bank of Newport**, **Callahan's Cafe Zelda**, **The Rockport Company**

and **Music Hall Cafe**. We can't forget those who fed us: **Allie's Donuts** and coffee, **Bagel Boys** fabulous bagels and cream cheese, and **John & Chris Gregorek** who donated Tropicana fruit teas. **David Larocque** generously volunteered to MC and came fully equipped with his sound gear. Race Committee members and boat spotters included **Gary Fisher**, **Tony Reeper**, **Whitey Russell**, **Jack Sheehan**, **Alden Anderson**, **Emily Coleman**, **Chuck Brown**, **David Hurd** and **John "Fud" Benson**. Other greeters and helpers to thank were **Monty Gomez**, **Ken O'Shea**, **Karen Benson**, **Geri Pilkington**, **Kathy Babcock** and **Beth Clarke**.

While we had a good mix of older and younger entrants, "We Rows for Rose" was a wonderful way to reach many of the young people who will become responsible for preserving this outstanding recreational resource for the next generation. We are being urged to hold this race again next year and expect it to be much larger. It's wonderful to see the number of paddlers in the area increasing, and it's really rewarding for there to be such a great place as the lighthouse for them to visit.



Joe Davis paddles Kelly, the only "official" dog of the race!

## History, continued from page 3

War of 1812. Thus, all the original documents, drawings, and expense records for Tousard's fortifications disappeared. The earliest map in the National Archives of Fort Hamilton was drawn in 1819 by a French engineer, commissioned by the U.S. Government to draw the Federal Fortifications as they existed at that time. A visual comparison of a 1780 map and the 1819 drawing of Fort Hamilton reveals the earlier French fortifications, yet none of the War Department's written reports to Congress made this distinction. For example, in 1802, Jonathan Williams reported the following:

"About two years ago a very extensive fortification was begun on this island which is situated about a mile NW of Fort Wolcott, and nearly one mile and a quarter NNW from Fort Adams. The plan of it is somewhat quadrilateral, and presents two regular, and two tower bastions, the works were suspended about ten months ago, the stone and brick work of the Bastions, and one of the sides [the south] is nearly completed, so too most of the sod work.

If the works are much longer neglected, they must be built denovo.

It was intended that this fortification should be wholly composed of stone, brick, and sod work. It is rather more perhaps than half finished, it is supplied with a well of water, as also by barracks completely finished for the accommodation of two companies of men — the bodies of which are of stone arched with brick and bomb proof and are no doubt the best in America...."

Except for Fort Hamilton on Rose Island, all the First System Fortifications in Newport have either been destroyed or have been significantly altered so as to impair their historical value. (to be continued...)

Charlotte Johnson's initial research was published in 1985 in the bulletin of the Newport Historical Society, **NEWPORT HISTORY**. During 1996 RILF will publish an updated, unabridged book on the history of Rose Island, its lighthouse and the efforts to save them.



## ROSE ISLAND EMBROIDERED SWEATSHIRT



Heavy-weight preshrunk cotton sweatshirt with ROSE ISLAND embroidered beautifully across the front. Very appealing with soft comfort from the very first time you put it on.

Part# 1255  
Color: Denim, Forest, Wine  
Sizes: S-XXL:  
Price 45.00

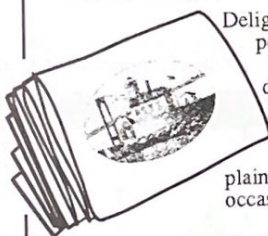
## THE ROSE ISLAND COLLECTION



## Holiday Gifts from Rose Island Newport, Rhode Island

& MBS Inc a licensee of the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation

## ROSE ISLAND NOTE CARDS



Delightful John Hagen pen & ink rendition of the Rose Island Lighthouse depicted on recycled & acid free paper. Antique appeal. Complete with envelope and plain inside for many writing occasions.

Part # 1100  
10 Cards p/set  
Price 8.75

## ROSE ISLAND COFFE MUG

This classic mug is built rugged to be a lasting companion. White with a navy logo imprint.

Part # 1330  
Price 6.00ea



Order Early  
for the  
Holidays

## CLASSIC ROSE ISLAND KNIT SHIRT



100% Cotton Polo with Rose Island Newport, RI handsomely embroidered. Heavy pique construction and a soft knit collar make this a sure favorite.

Part # 1210  
Sizes M-XXL  
Colors: White, Navy, Forest, Wine, Sapphire

Price: 32.00

TO ORDER CALL 1 800 771-8245





ROSE ISLAND CLASSIC CAP

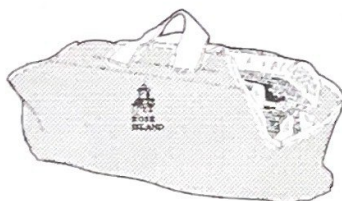


This 6-panel cotton cap is classic in every sense of the word. Weathered cotton fabric with adjustable leather strap and full embroidered name on front.

Part # 1470  
Colors White, Grey  
Khaki  
Price 15.00



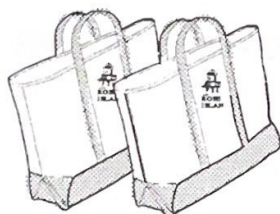
## ROSE ISLAND LOG CARRIER



Made of 22oz heavy-duty canvas, this rugged log carrier has wood reinforced handles plus unique end cap construction that keeps dirt and wood chips inside. Navy with tan trim and Rose Island Logo. We recommend 2 bags for a balanced carry.

Part#	1015
Dimension	28"x18.5"
Price	18.00

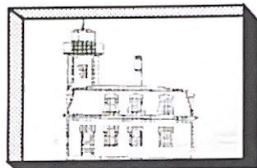
## ROSE ISLAND TOTE



As durable as they are useful.  
Constructed of rugged heavy-weight  
canvas.  
Natural color with navy trim.  
The Rose Island Logo imprinted  
on the side of the tote.

Part#	1020
Dimension	24"x16"x7"
Price	18.00

## ROSE ISLAND ORNAMENT



This Steve Johnson ornament design captures the shimmering charm of Rose Island Lighthouse.

A perfect addition to any holiday ornament collection that will bring years of enjoyment. 3" x 4", gold plated, and comes in its own individual red gift box.

Part # 1200	Price 11.00
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## ROSE ISLAND SWEATSHIRT

Offered in 100% Cotton.  
Rose Island logo silkscreened  
on the front. Preshrunk and  
comfortable from the start.  
Full Cut Fit.

Part #	1290
Sizes	M-XL
Colors	Periwinkle Blue Rose Red
Price	30.00



## ROSE ISLAND TEE

Wonderful 100% preshrunk  
cotton earthtone tee.  
Full front logo  
silkscreened in white.

Part #	1010
Sizes	M-XL
Colors	Perrywinkle Blue Rose Red
Price	14.00

**TO ORDER CALL TODAY 1 800 771-8245**

**CURRENT MEMBERS MAY DEDUCT 1.00 FROM EACH ITEM**

TO ORDER TODAY: 1 800 771-8245

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS

DAY TEL #

## PAYMENT METHOD

CHECK ☐

CARD NO

EXP DATE

NAME ON CARD

	QUANTITY	PART NO.	SIZE	COLOR	PRICE EA	EXT
MBS Inc. The Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation Newport RI 02840						
				TOTAL		
				TAX 7% sales tax on product delivered in RI		
				SHIPPING Add \$ .75		
				TOTAL		



# THANKS

Thank you to those of you who responded either to our last wish list or to a totally spontaneous urge to generously share your treasures with us...To: **Bettie Pardee** for some wonderfully old-but-still-functional china plates; **Alicia Spinner, Herb Rommel and Winkle Kelley** for various games, picture puzzles and field guides; **Carolyn Connors** for a framed photo of the lighthouse; **George & Sheila Perry** for an old ice box we'll use in the museum along with an antique walnut drop-leaf dining table donated by **Robin Eldridge Hain**; **Dick and Betsey Eldridge** for napkins and place mats; **Terry Johnson** for a fishing rod and reel; **Doris and Nap Shaw** for a nice knotted throw rug; **T.J. Brown** for firewood and **Bob Finn and Don Brown** for delivering it. **Lucia deLeiris** for the fine watercolor of the lighthouse and **Kathy Fisher** for the beautiful job framing it.



*Bill Rommel and Claire Tague of Arnold Art presented RILF with a check for \$1,100, the proceeds from the Lighthouse art show.*

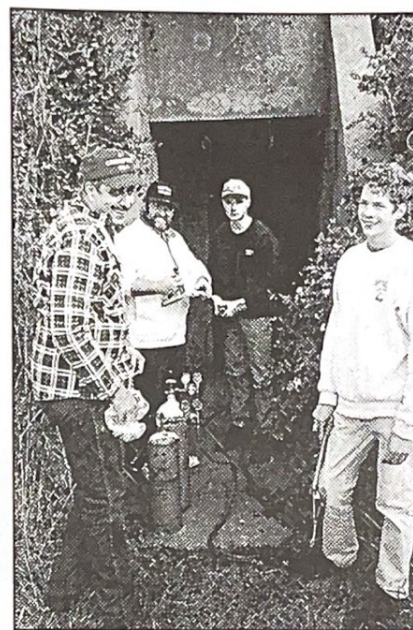
Special THANKS to our volunteers and supporters...especially to our Get-The-Drift-and-Bag-It crew from Boy Scout Troop 77, Middletown: **Joe Aguiar, Ryan Conrad, Corey Field, Jordon**



*Boy Scout Troop 77, Middletown*

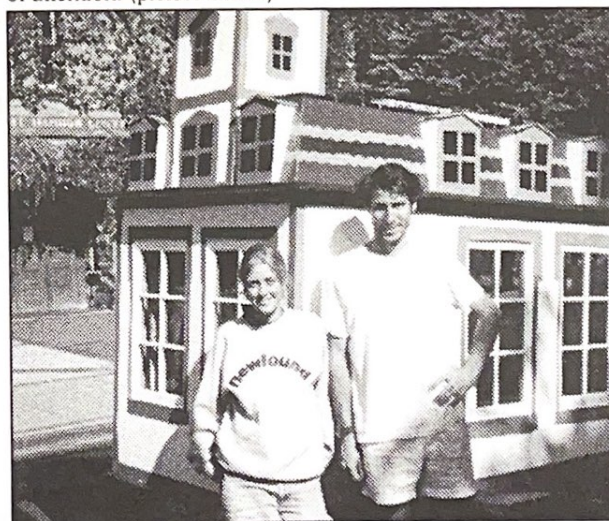
**Gramez, Bruce Kintner, Daniel Sasse, David Tungett and Scout Leader Lynne Tungett; Ray Palmer** for sorting and organizing ten years' worth (1984-1994)

of photos; **Goat Island Marina** for parking spaces for our keepers and guests; **Frank Sweeney (FJS)** for repairing and cleaning the keeper's typewriter; **Brian Tuck** for furniture repairs; **Leigh Ann Greenman** and her friends for unfailing help both in the office and at the lighthouse over the summer; **Joan Masson** for the first successful batch of rose hip marmalade jam; **The Rockport**



*Eagle Scout Matt Walters (right) and crew to install doors on our storage bunker.*

**Company** for giving us on-shore visibility by permanently displaying a gigantic photo and our own lighthouse model in their store at 240 Thames Street; **Sherwin Williams** for donating the white masonry primer and paint and **Ed and Nancy Enright** for painting the brick generator building; **System One's Jan Messek** for managing our computerized weather data each month; Eagle Scout **Matt Walters** for organizing an incredible crew to install doors on our storage bunker (see photo); and to **Christopher Owens** and young friends for our new display boards to show how power is generated at the lighthouse, plus the trailerable model of the lighthouse that we can take to schools, show in parades and otherwise use whenever we need to get lots of attention! (picture below)





## ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE LISTED IN NATIONAL GREEN PAGES™

The Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation is listed in the just-released Co-op America's *National Green Pages™*, an honor roll of the top "green" companies from around the U.S.

RILF is a member of the Co-op American Business Network, the largest association of socially and environmentally responsible businesses in the world. The Co-op America Foundation publishes the *National Green Pages™* each year to feature the country's most outstanding progressive businesses. It is a convenient, reliable directory of 1500 of the most innovative "green" companies in the U.S. Besides listing the big green companies like Timberland and Ben & Jerry's, it also includes many smaller businesses like the Rose Island Lighthouse. Each business pledges to "conduct business according to standards that reach beyond contemporary practices in addressing the needs of consumers, employees, the community and the environment." Consumers who use the *National Green Pages™* can be assured that their products and services are coming from companies who care about people and the planet.

Copies of the *National Green Pages™* are available for \$5.95 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling from the Rose Island Lighthouse. Call 401-847-4242 to order, or for more information about how your business can become listed.

## REAL GOODS HOME TOUR DRAWS A CROWD



What happens when 48 people sign up for a tour and 120 people show up? We give thanks! To **Henry Wood** for allowing "**Clingstone**" (his home on Jamestown's Dumpling rocks) to be coupled at the last minute with the Rose Island Lighthouse tour on Saturday, October 14 as part of the "Real Goods 3rd Annual National Independent Home Tour." Special thanks also go to the **Jamestown & Newport Ferry** and **Oldport Launch Services** for discounting their regular fares to shuttle all 120 people back and forth and around Narragansett Bay to benefit the Lighthouse!

With so many people interested in this special tour, Henry has promised to let us do it again next year, but with a little more organization and advance ticket sales to members. Again, Thank You HENRY WOOD!



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